

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:JSGRAVATT:DWL

7/9/73 EXT. 20702

APPROVED BY EB/OA/AVP:JASILBERSTEIN

EA/IMS - THEAVNER

FAA - REPATTISON

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R 112120Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135602

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN

SUBJ: CIVAIR - SINGAPORE FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR)

REF : (A) SINGAPORE 2696 AND (B) KUALA LUMPUR 3009

1. FYI FAA AS RESPONSIBLE US TECHNICAL AGENCY IS NOW INCLINED SUPPORT, IF THERE IS A CONSENSUS, MALAYSIAN PROPOSAL AT FORTHCOMING ICAO ASIA/PACIFIC REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION MEETING, HONOLULU, SEPTEMBER 5 - 28, 1973, FOR AMENDMENT TO ICAO REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION PLAN TO ESTABLISH A MALAYSIAN FIR IN PLACE OF MOST OF THE EXISTING SINGAPORE FIR. THIS POSITION WOULD BE TAKEN ON GROUNDS THAT (1) IT IS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE ICAO PRACTICE THAT A STATE HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AN FIR INVOLVING ITS AIRSPACE MORE THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER STATE; (2) MALAYSIA AT THE PREVIOUS ICAO REGIONAL MEETING FOR SOUTH EAST ASIA AT MANILA IN 1968 DID NOT RAISE ISSUE OF EXISTING SINGAPORE FIR BUT IS NOW DESIROUS OF OPERATING ITS OWN FIR WHEN TECHNICALLY COMPETENT.

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2. CONTRARY MAHADZIR'S EXPECTATIONS IN REFTTEL (B), FAA AND DEPT BELIEVE RECOMMENDATION WILL BE MADE FOR MALAYSIAN FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION AT HONOLULU MEETING. V.H. DAVEY, FORMER DIRECTOR ICAO REGIONAL OFFICE, BANGKOK HAS RESIGNED AND ACCEPTED A POSITION AS CIVIL AVIATION ADVISER TO GOM. ICAO HEADQUARTERS REPORTS THAT DAVEY, A CANADIAN NATIONAL,

WILL BE CHAIRMAN MALAYSIAN DELEGATION AT HONOLULU WITH VIEW TO OBTAINING RECOMMENDATION FOR MALAYSIAN FIR. END FYI.

3. ADDRESSEE MISSIONS FURTHER COMMENTS REQUESTED PARTICULARLY SINCE BOTH MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE HAVE MADE APPROACHES TO DEPT IN PAST YEAR REQUESTING US SUPPORT FOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR FIR IN QUESTION BEING ASSIGNED TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS. SINCE FIR MERELY AIRSPACE OF DEFINED DIMENSIONS WITHIN WHICH FLIGHT INFORMATION AND ALERTING SERVICE PROVIDED, NO QUESTION OF AIR SOVEREIGNTY INVOLVED. ROGERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE135602
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JS GRAVATT:DWL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SILBERSTEIN, J A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730740/aaaabcxx.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 (A) SINGAPORE 2696 AND (B) KUALA, LUMPUR 3009
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Nov-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2002 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - SINGAPORE FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR)
TAGS: ETRN
To: SINGAPORE KUALA LUMPUR
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005